IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

receiving audiovisual data from a desired transmission channel;

if said audiovisual data is not compressed according to a predetermined format, compressing said received audiovisual data according to said predetermined format;

storing dynamically, in a mass storage device and for a predefined period of time, compressed audiovisual data received from said desired transmission channel to be included in ~~according to~~ a title plan generated by a time shift scheduler, wherein said title plan includes information identifying a plurality of content stored dynamically as compressed audiovisual data, wherein at least one of said plurality of content has a variable duration, wherein storing compressed audiovisual data dynamically comprises:

allocating a portion of memory in the mass storage device for recording a portion of the at least one of said plurality of content having the variable duration for subsequent access by users;

utilizing a predetermined amount of said allocated portion of memory to record a portion of the at least one of said plurality of content having a variable duration;

allocating an additional portion of memory in the mass storage device to record a next portion of the at least one of said plurality of content having the variable duration in response to utilizing said predetermined amount of said allocated portion of memory; ~~and~~

repeating said utilizing and said allocating said additional portion of memory until all of said at least one of said plurality of content having a variable duration is stored; and

deallocating any allocated portion of memory not used to record the at least one of said plurality of content having a variable duration; and

in response to a user request, providing to said user said stored compressed audiovisual data beginning with a portion of said stored compressed audiovisual data having associated with it a first temporal parameter.

2. (Currently Amended) In a system adapted to receive broadcast content on a desired transmission channel from each of a plurality of content sources and forward said received broadcast content to a transport network for distribution to subscribers, a method comprising:

in response to a title plan generated by a time shift scheduler, wherein said title plan includes <u>information identifying</u> a plurality of content, wherein at least one of said plurality of content has a variable duration, storing dynamically ~~said broadcast~~ <u>the plurality of</u> content in a server and associating with ~~said broadcast~~ <u>the plurality of</u> content a temporal parameter, wherein storing dynamically comprises:

allocating a portion of memory in a mass storage device <u>for recording a portion of the at least one plurality of content having a variable duration for subsequent access</u>;

utilizing a predetermined amount of said allocated portion of memory <u>to record a portion of the at least one plurality of content having a variable duration</u>;

allocating an additional portion of memory in the mass storage device <u>to record a next portion of the at least one plurality of content having a variable duration</u> in response to utilizing said predetermined amount of said allocated portion of memory; ~~and~~

repeating said utilizing and said allocating said additional portion of memory until all of said at least one of said plurality of content having a variable
duration is stored; and;

<u>deallocating any allocated portion of memory not used to record the at least one plurality of content having a variable duration; and</u>

forwarding ~~said broadcast~~ <u>the plurality of</u> content to said transport network for distribution in accordance with said temporal parameter to a requesting subscriber; and

in response to a subscriber request for temporally shifted content associated with ~~said broadcast~~ <u>the plurality of</u> content, forwarding ~~said~~ <u>the</u> stored ~~broadcast~~ <u>plurality of</u> content to said transport network for distribution to said requesting subscriber.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

forwarding to said transport network only the received ~~broadcast~~ <u>plurality of</u> content presently requested by any subscriber.

4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

storing, in said server, ~~broadcast~~ the plurality of content presently requested by a threshold number of subscribers.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said storing of ~~said~~ the desired ~~broadcast~~ plurality of content comprises storing a temporally sub-sampled version of the desired ~~broadcast~~ plurality of content content to generate a fast-forward track.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said storing of said desired ~~broadcast~~ plurality of content comprises storing a temporally sub-sampled version of the desired ~~broadcast~~ plurality of content in reverse order to generate a reverse track.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said storing of said desired ~~broadcast~~ plurality of content comprises storing a version of the desired ~~broadcast~~ plurality of content to generate a play track.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising, storing selected ~~broadcast~~ plurality of content during a predetermined time interval of a broadcast schedule.

9.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 2, wherein said subscriber request for temporally shifted content is initiated by receiving a subscriber title selection from a time shift interactive programming guide screen.

10.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 2, wherein said subscriber request for temporally shifted content is initiated by receiving a subscriber title selection from a time shift navigation screen.

11.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said subscriber request for temporally shifted content is initiated by receiving a pause or rewind subscriber selection while broadcasting of said desired plurality of content.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for providing video information in an interactive information distribution system to a plurality of subscribers, comprising:

receiving a plurality of scheduled broadcast programs on a desired transmission channel in real-time;

selecting a portion of said broadcast programs according to a title plan generated by a time shift scheduler, wherein said title plan includes <u>information identifying</u> a plurality of content, wherein at least one of said plurality of content has a variable duration;

processing said selected broadcast programs into temporally adjusted content, such that the temporally adjusted content is associated with said selected broadcast programs;

storing dynamically said temporally adjusted content <u>of at least one program having a variable duration for later access by subscribers,</u> wherein storing dynamically <u>said temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration for later access by subscribers</u> comprises:

allocating a portion of memory in a mass storage device <u>for recording a portion of the temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration;</u>

utilizing a predetermined amount of said allocated portion of memory <u>to record the portion of the temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration</u> ;

allocating an additional portion of memory in the mass storage device <u>to record a next portion of the temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration</u> in response to utilizing said predetermined amount of said allocated portion of memory; ~~and~~

repeating said utilizing and said allocating said additional portion of memory until all of ~~said at least one of said plurality of content having a variable duration~~ <u>the temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration</u> is stored; <u>and</u>

<u>deallocating any allocated portion of memory not used to record the temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration ; and</u>

broadcasting said plurality of scheduled broadcast programs to said plurality of subscribers via said desired transmission channel; and

in a first mode of operation, associating a temporal parameter to said temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration and streaming, on-demand, said temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having the variable duration and said temporal parameter to those subscribers viewing said selected broadcast programs currently being broadcast, such that said subscribers may interactively activate such temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration contemporaneously with said currently broadcast programs.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

providing a navigator list to said subscribers having screens presenting said selected broadcast programs having temporally adjusted content for viewing and selection,

wherein in an alternate mode of operation, streaming, on-demand, said temporally adjusted content via said navigator list, such that said subscribers may interactively activate such temporally adjusted content during viewership of previously scheduled broadcast programs selected from said navigator list.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said subscribers may interactively switch between said first mode and said alternate mode of operation.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said selecting step comprises:

monitoring subscriber viewership; and

selecting those broadcast programs having a viewership exceeding a predetermined metric.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said selecting step further comprises:

generating title plans for identifying said broadcast programs to be temporally adjusted; and

defining a temporal availability window for each program.

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17.　(Previously Presented)　　The method of claim 16, wherein said processing step comprises:

generating real-time encoded play tracks, fast-forward tracks, rewind tracks, and entry point data (EPD) files associated with each track., said fast-forward tracks and rewind tracks forming said temporally adjusted content.

18.　(Previously Presented)　　The method of claim 17, wherein said processing step further comprises:

encoding said broadcast programs identified in said title plan to form said temporally adjusted programs; and

buffering said encoded broadcast programs.

19.　(Previously Presented)　　The method of claim 18, wherein said processing step further comprises:

receiving packetized transport streams from at least one encoder; and

inserting title identification codes (TICS) to each packet to enable said transport streams to be identified as said real-time encoded play tracks, fast-forward tracks, and rewind tracks.

20.　(Previously Presented)　　The method of claim 19, further comprising:

generating said EPD files as said fast-forward and rewind tracks are being created.

21.　(Previously Presented)　　The method of claim 20, wherein said EPD files provide transition between streaming of the Play, fast-forward and rewind tracks at appropriate points in response to user commands.

22.　(Previously Presented)　　The method of claim 19, wherein said storing step comprises:

receiving said buffered encoded broadcast programs;

storing said real-time play tracks in a plurality of extents;

storing said fast-forward tracks in extents in a front to back order; and

storing said rewind tracks in extents in a back to front order.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, where said storing step further comprises storing selected broadcast programs from a particular channel for a fixed window of time.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, where said storing step further comprises storing selected broadcast programs from a plurality of channels.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said first mode of operation further comprises providing an interactive program guide (IPG) to said subscribers having screens presenting said selected broadcast programs having temporally adjusted content for viewing and selection.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said first mode of operation further comprises receiving a temporal control message from a subscriber selected from the group of temporal control messages consisting of pause, rewind, and fast-forward.

28.   (Currently Amended) A system for providing video information in an interactive information distribution system to a plurality of subscribers, comprising:

means for receiving a plurality of scheduled broadcast programs on a desired transmission channel in real-time;

means for selecting a portion of said broadcast programs according to a title plan generated by a time shift scheduler, wherein said title plan includes information identifying a plurality of content, wherein at least one of said ~~plurality of content~~ broadcast programs has a variable duration;

means for processing said selected broadcast programs into temporally adjusted content, such that the temporally adjusted content is associated with said selected broadcast programs;

means for storing dynamically said temporally adjusted content of at least one program having a variable duration for later access by subscribers, wherein storing dynamically comprises:

allocating a portion of memory in a mass storage device for recording a portion of the temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration;

utilizing a predetermined amount of said allocated portion of memory to record the portion of the temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration;

allocating an additional portion of memory in the mass storage device to record a next portion of the temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration in response to utilizing said predetermined amount of said allocated portion of memory; ~~and~~

repeating said utilizing and said allocating said additional portion of memory until all of ~~said at least one of said plurality of content having a variable duration~~ the temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration is stored; and

deallocating any allocated portion of memory not used to record the temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration; and

means for broadcasting said plurality of scheduled broadcast programs to said plurality of subscribers via said desired transmission channel; and

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in a first mode of operation, means for associating a temporal parameter to said temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration and streaming, on-demand, said temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration and said temporal parameter to those subscribers viewing said selected broadcast programs currently being broadcast, such that said subscribers may interactively activate such temporally adjusted content of the at least one program having a variable duration contemporaneously with said currently broadcast programs.